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Item 13-39
Box 13
Accordion 4

President's Council On
Sustainable Development

Status Update

April 1995

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Forum's Agenda: Green or Growth?
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Staff Writer
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When President Clinton established the President's Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD) in June 1993, he envisioned a broad, consensus-based effort to strengthen our nation's economic, environmental, and social future. He invited 25 national leaders representing widely-differing constituencies to recommend a National Sustainable Development Action Strategy—a series of actions that would help the United States expand its economy and protect its environment while distributing more equitably the costs and benefits of both.

Since then, the Council has made steady progress toward the fulfillment of the President's vision. As this status update describes, during its first 16 months the Council developed an organizational structure and operating principles that have helped the members work together toward their common goals. Eight different task forces have been established to identify impediments to, and opportunities for, sustainable development in specific areas. Several hundred people from every region of the country, and with a broad range of skills and perspectives, have volunteered their time and energy to the work of the task forces. A central support staff—the Secretariat—has been set up to assist the task forces and help bring their work together into an integrated strategy.

Most important, the general public has been invited to participate with the PCSD at every step of the process. If U.S. economic, environmental, and social development are to be sustained into the 21st century and beyond, then fundamental changes in behavior have to occur not only in the federal government, but in every American family, business, and community. The American public has been invited to attend Council meetings and comment on all the work of the Council, because public involvement—and public action—is critical to sustainable development in the future.

Over the next few months the Council will prepare the draft goals and recommendations that will be presented for public comment in July 1995. The members of the PCSD invite all Americans with an interest in our common future to read those draft recommendations, think about them, and share with us your ideas on how to make them better. We intend to present our National Sustainable Development Action Strategy to the President in the fall of 1995, and we want it to incorporate the best and most innovative ideas from all Americans.

Thank you for your interest and support.

David Buzzelli
Co-Chair

Jonathan Lash
Co-Chair

Molly Harriss Olson
Executive Director

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"For all our differences, I think there is an overwhelming determination to change our course...to achieve things that are larger than ourselves and more lasting than the present moment. We seek to set our course by the star of age–old values, not short–term expediencies; to waste less in the present and to provide more for the future; to leave a legacy which keeps the faith with those who left the Earth to us."

President William Jefferson Clinton, Earth Day 1993

Executive Order No. 12852

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Establishment.

There is established the "President's Council on Sustainable Development" ("Council"). The Council shall consist of not more than 25 members to be appointed by the President from the public and private sectors and who represent industrial, environmental, governmental, and not-for-profit organizations with experience relating to matters of sustainable development. The President shall designate from among the Council members such official or officials to be chairperson, chairpersons, vice-chairpersons or vice-chairpersons of the Council as he shall deem appropriate. The Council shall coordinate with and report to such officials of the executive branch as the President or the Director of the White House Office on Environmental Policy shall from time to time determine.

Section 2. Functions.

(a) The Council shall advise the President on matters involving sustainable development. "Sustainable development" is broadly defined as economic growth that will benefit present and future generations without detrimentally affecting the resources or biological systems of the planet.

(b) The Council shall develop and recommend to the President a national sustainable development action strategy that will foster economic vitality.

(c) The chairperson or chairpersons may, from time to time, invite experts to submit information to the Council and may form subcommittees of the Council to review and report to the Council on the development of national and local sustainable development plans.

Section 3. Administration.

(a) The heads of executive agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide to the Council such information with respect to sustainable development as the Council requires to carry out its functions.

(b) Members of the Council shall serve without compensation, but shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the Government service (5 U.S.C. 5701-5707).

(c) The White House Office on Environmental Policy shall obtain funding for the Council from the Department of the Interior or such other sources (including other Federal agencies) as may lawfully contribute to such activities. The funding received shall provide for the administration and financial support of the Council.

(d) The Office of Administration in the Executive Office of the President shall, on a reimbursable basis, provide such administrative services for the Council as may be required.

Section 4. General.

(a) I have determined that the Council shall be established in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App). Notwithstanding any other Executive order, the functions of the President under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, except that of reporting to the Congress, which are applicable to the Council, shall be performed by the Office of Administration in the Executive Office of the President in accord with the guidelines and procedures established by the Administrator of General Services.

(b) The Council shall exist for a period of 2 years from the date of this order, unless the Council's charter is subsequently extended.

(c) Executive Order No. 12737, which established the President's Commission on Environmental Quality, is revoked.

William J. Clinton

The White House
June 29, 1993

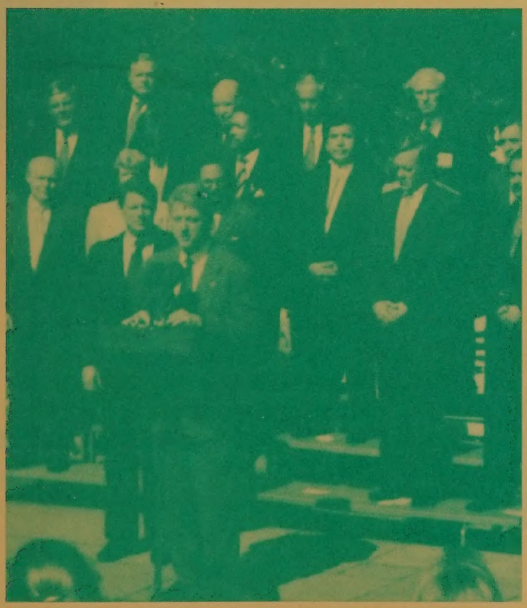
AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12852

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, and in order to amend Executive Order No. 12852, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 12852 is amended by deleting the text of Section 3(d) of the order and inserting in lieu thereof the following text: "The Department of the Interior shall, on a reimbursable basis, provide such administrative services for the Council as may be required" and by deleting the words "Office of Administration in the Executive Office of the President" in Section 4 of that order and inserting the "Department of the Interior" in lieu thereot.

The White House
July 19, 1993

In June of 1993, President Clinton moved to translate vision into action with the creation of the President's Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD). Comprised of 25 leaders from industry, government, and environmental, labor, and civil rights organizations, the PCSD is charged with advising the President on matters related to sustainable development and preparing a National Sustainable Development Action Strategy, including specific recommendations to government, corporations, non-government organizations, and communities on new ways to foster economic vitality and protect our natural and cultural resources. The Council also is charged with instituting a Presidential Honors Program recognizing exemplary sustainable development efforts.

In addition to its primarily domestic focus, there is an international dimension to the Council's work. At the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992, 120 nations agreed to an agenda for action needed to sustain the global environment and economic development into the 21st century. Agenda 21 is the formal blueprint for global change adopted at the Earth Summit. The work of the PCSD is intended, at least in part, to fulfill U.S. commitments related to signing Agenda 21 in Rio de Janeiro.



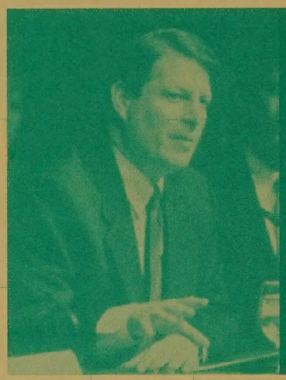
What is Sustainable Development?

Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Choosing to be sustainable in businesses, schools, government institutions, and in our individual lives demands a national commitment to the nation's economic prosperity, ecological integrity, and social equity. Through the efforts of the Council and its task forces, the PCSD hopes to foster a national understanding of sustainable development that will help shape future environmental, economic, and social policies.

The Council's mission is no less daunting than the fundamental economic, environmental, and social challenges that inspired its creation. Perhaps our greatest challenge is to overcome inertia.

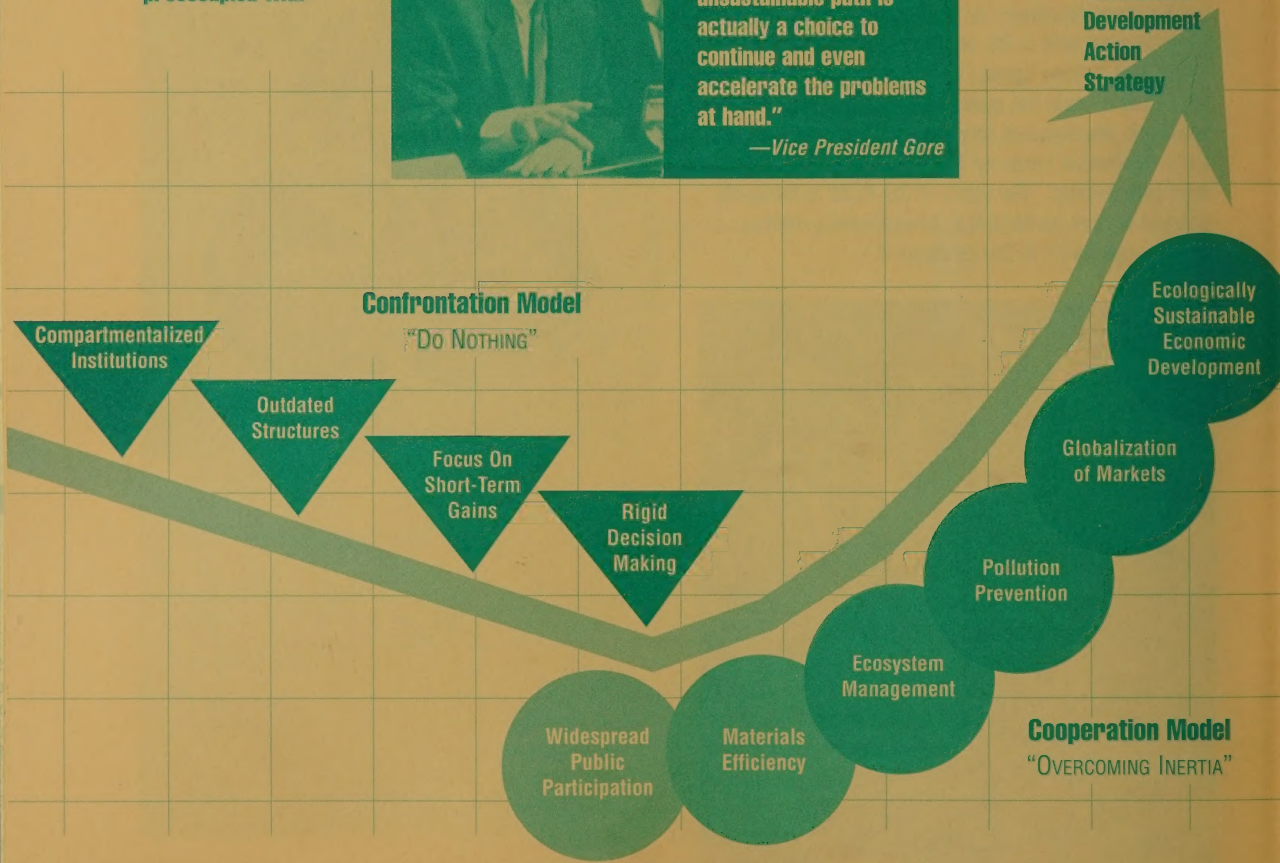
At the root of these challenges lies the outdated and compartmentalized structure of many of society's institutions, particularly those that affect the economy and the environment. Instead of helping to resolve these challenges through innovative and integrated approaches, this fragmented structure often exacerbates them. Rigid decisionmaking that excludes wide participation and is preoccupied with short–term gains also stands in the way of progress in these areas and tends to increase confrontation.

The Council's goal is to recommend a National Sustainable Development Action Strategy that addresses these realities and transcends the existing barriers within a context of economic restructuring, demographic changes, the globalization of trade, and international political transition. To advance this strategy, the Council designed a program to build widespread public support for its recommendations.



"A choice to do nothing in response to the mounting evidence that we are currently traveling down an unsustainable path is actually a choice to continue and even accelerate the problems at hand."

—Vice President Gore



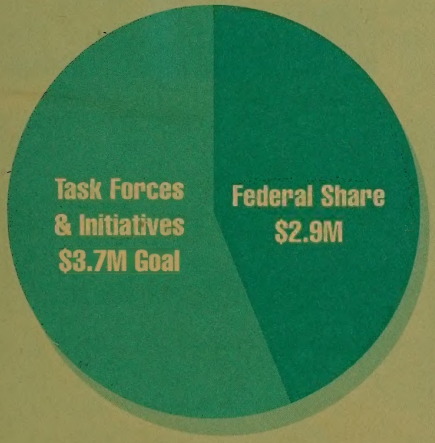
Chartered initially for two years, the Council's first effort brought together 25 members who represent a broad range of constituencies and stakeholders. A concept of shared vision, shared responsibility, and partnership is reflected in all the Council's efforts through its commitment to involve the public at every step in its processes, decisions, and recommendations.

The underlying principle of shared responsibility also is evident in the PCSD budget. Approximately half the Council's budget—the core operating expenses—is funded by participating federal agencies. Private corporations and foundations contribute the remainder.

In addition, each task force and initiative has a budget and funding structure to accomplish its individual workplan. By funding the Secretariat, the federal government has contributed approximately 44 percent of the Council's two-year operating expenses. The Council has looked primarily to business and philanthropies to share the remaining responsibility for funding support.

By agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Council has the authority to use the "Take Pride in America" program to solicit and receive gifts and donations to advance its broader mission—to further public education about the importance and appropriate use of the nation's natural and cultural resources.

A number of task force projects will be carried out by non-profit organizations in agreement with the Council. The Memoranda of Understanding between the PCSD Executive Director and these organizations give them the authority to raise and spend funds on behalf of PCSD-related projects. This process allows the PCSD to establish proper oversight and accountability for all funds, as well as specify critieria for the quality of services provided to the task forces.



(As of January 1995)

Council Secretariat Funding Received From Federal Sources

Fiscal Year 1993	$ 130,000
Fiscal Year 1994	840,000
Inkind Direct Support (est.)	900,000
Fiscal Year 1995	1,000,000
Subtotal:	$ 2,870,000

Task Force & Initiative Funding Goals

Eco-Efficiency Task Force	$ 504,000
Energy & Transportation Task Force	551,900
Natural Resources Task Force	309,000
Population & Consumption Task Force	52,400
Principles, Goals, & Definition Task Force	100,000
Public Linkage, Dialogue, & Education Task Force	539,500
Sustainable Agriculture Task Force	65,000
Sustainable Communities Task Force	270,000
Presidential Honors Program	700,000
Communications Strategy	231,750
Final Report Publishing	100,000
Other Initiatives & Site Visits	300,000
Subtotal:	$ 3,723,550
Total:	$ 6,593,550

The PCSD consists of 25 leaders from industry, government, and environmental, labor, and civil rights organizations. A network of more than 450 additional task force members and liaisons assists the Council members in their work. The goal of the PCSD is to move the nation toward sustainability today, tomorrow, and in the future.

Co-Chairs:

David T. Buzzelli, Vice President & Corporate Director, The Dow Chemical Company
Jonathan Lash, President, World Resources Institute

Members:

John H. Adams, Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council
Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
Richard Barth, Chairman, President & CEO, Ciba-Geigy Corporation
Ronald H. Brown, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
Carol M. Browner, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., Environmental Justice Advocate
Richard A. Clarke, Chairman, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
A.D. "Pete" Correll, Chairman & CEO, Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Kenneth T. Derr, Chairman & CEO, Chevron Corporation
Dianne Dillon-Ridgley, Co-Chair, Citizens Network for Sustainable Development
Thomas Donahue, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO
Judith Espinosa, former Secretary of the Environment, State of New Mexico
Jay D. Hair, President & CEO, National Wildlife Federation
William Hoglund, Former Executive VP, General Motors Corporation
Samuel C. Johnson, Chairman, S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.
Fred D. Krupp, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund
Kenneth L. Lay, Chairman & CEO, Enron Corporation
Hazel Rollins O'Leary, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
Michele Perrault, International Vice President, Sierra Club
William D. Ruckelshaus, Chairman & CEO, Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc.
John C. Sawhill, President & CEO, The Nature Conservancy
Theodore Strong, Executive Director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Ex-Officio Members:

James Baker, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA
Madeleine M. Kunin, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
Richard Rominger, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Timothy E. Wirth, Under Secretary for Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Executive Director:

Molly Harriss Olson

President Clinton

Council on Environmental Quality

President's Council on Sustainable Development

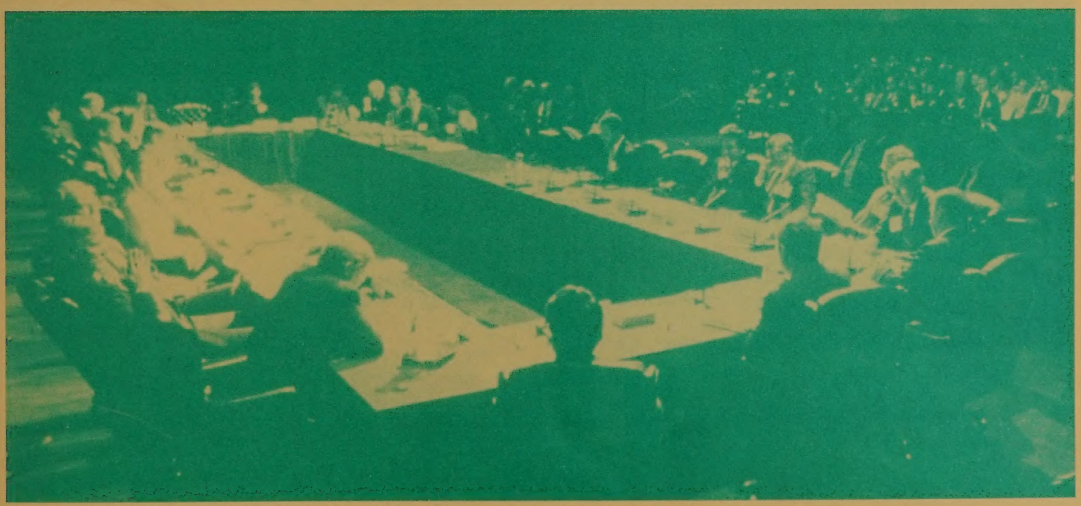
25 Members from
Industry, Government, and Environmental, Labor, and Civil Rights Organizations
4 Ex-Officio Members from Federal Agencies
2 Co-Chairs
Executive Director

Council Secretariat

8 Council Task Forces

(400+ Members and Liaisons)
Principles & Goals - Public Linkages - Natural Resources - Eco-Efficiency
Sustainable Agriculture - Sustainable Communities - Energy & Transportation
Population & Consumption

Established by Executive Order, the PCSD reports to the President through the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). A 20-person PCSD Secretariat provides the members of the Council with ongoing administrative and technical support. The eight PCSD task forces, each of which is headed by several members of the Council and composed of experts serving PCSD voluntarily, conduct the various work efforts that will be integrated into the National Sustainable Development Action Strategy.



"...to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Brundtland Commission (1987)

The Council made notable progress during its first year. Consensus emerged on the basic elements of sustainability. As its definition of the term "sustainable development," the Council adopted the definition first introduced by the Brundtland Commission in 1987.

The Council also drafted a vision statement and a series of defining principles of sustainable development in the United States, all of which were presented to the public for comment. By the time the comment period closed on August 15, 1994, more than 600 individuals and organizations had responded. A final vision statement and series of defining principles will be included in the report to the President.

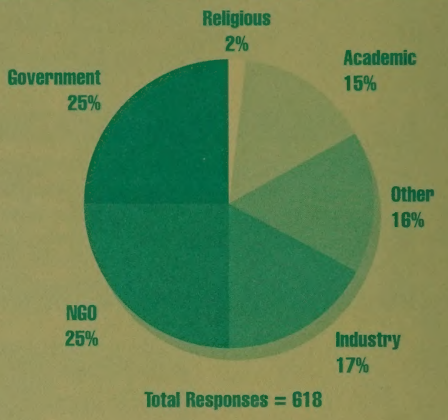
Draft Vision Statement

Our vision is of a life-sustaining Earth. We are committed to the achievement of a dignified, peaceful, and equitable existence.

We believe a sustainable United States will have an economy that equitably provides opportunities for satisfying livelihoods and a safe, healthy, high quality of life for present and future generations.

Our Nation will protect its environment, its natural resource base, and the functions and viability of natural systems on which all life depends.

Public Responses to the Draft Vision Statement and Principles of Sustainable Development



A total of 618 responses were received to the Council's draft "Vision for a Sustainable U.S. and Principles of Sustainable Development." The above chart shows the wide range of constituencies that commented on the visions and principles.

The public response to the vision statement and principles showed widespread support for the overall effort, presented some serious differences about the relationship of economic growth to sustainable development, and offered a considerable number of suggestions for improvement to both content and format. Many commentators stressed the importance of local or community action, while others focused on the global context. Some suggested that PCSD move forward quickly to the implementation stage.

To help achieve its vision of sustainable development in the United States, the Council drafted 15 principles to guide its work. These draft principles were submitted to the public for comment. A final set of principles will be included in the report to the President.

Draft Principles

1. We must preserve and, where possible, restore the integrity of natural systems —soils, water, air, and biological diversity — which sustain both economic prosperity and life itself.

2. Economic growth, environmental protection, and social equity should be interdependent, mutually reinforcing national goals, and policies to achieve these should be integrated.

3. Along with appropriate protective measures, market strategies should be used to harness private energies and capital to protect and improve the environment.

4. Population must be stabilized at a level consistent with the capacity of the earth to support its inhabitants.

5. Protection of natural systems requires changed patterns of consumption consistent with a steady improvement in the efficiency with which society uses natural resources.

6. Progress toward the elimination of poverty is essential for economic progress, equity, and environmental quality.

7. All segments of society should equitably share environmental benefits and burdens.

8. All economic and environmental decisionmaking should consider the well-being of future generations, and preserve for them the widest possible range of choices.

9. Where public health may be adversely affected, or environmental damage may be serious or irreversible, prudent action is required even in the face of scientific uncertainty.

10. Sustainable development requires fundamental changes in the conduct of government, private institutions, and individuals.

11. Environmental and economic concerns are central to our national and global security.

12. Sustainable development is best attained in a society in which free institutions flourish.

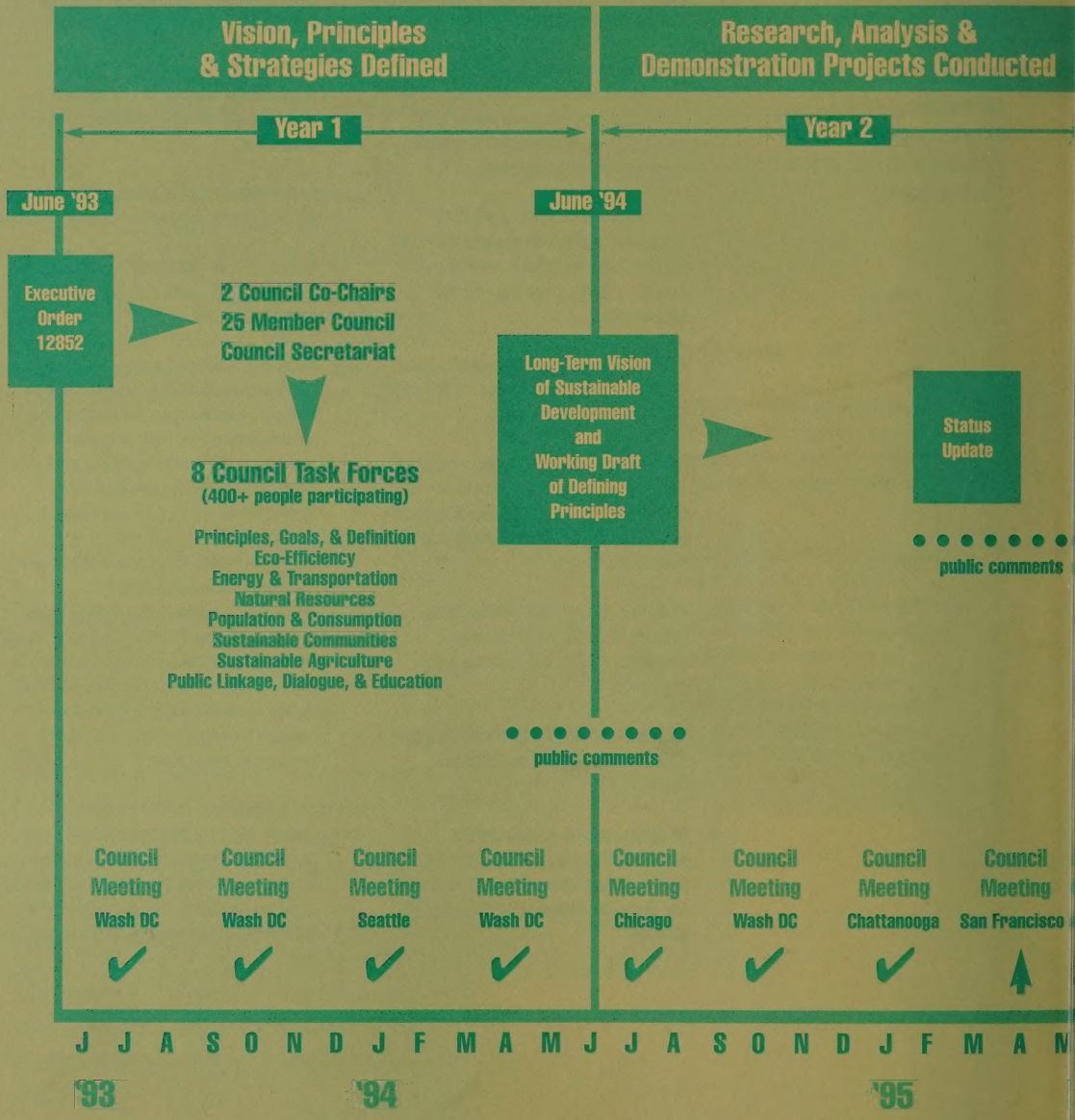
13. Decisions affecting sustainable development should be open and permit informed participation by affected and interested parties. That requires a knowledgeable public, a free flow of information, and fair and equitable opportunities for review and redress.

14. Advances in science and technology are beneficial, increasing both our understanding and range of choices about how humanity and the environment relate. We must seek constant improvements in both science and technology in order to achieve eco-efficiency, protect and restore natural systems, and change consumption patterns.

15. Sustainability in the United States is closely tied to global sustainability. Our policies for trade, economic development, foreign aid, and environmental protection must be considered in the context of the international implications of these policies.

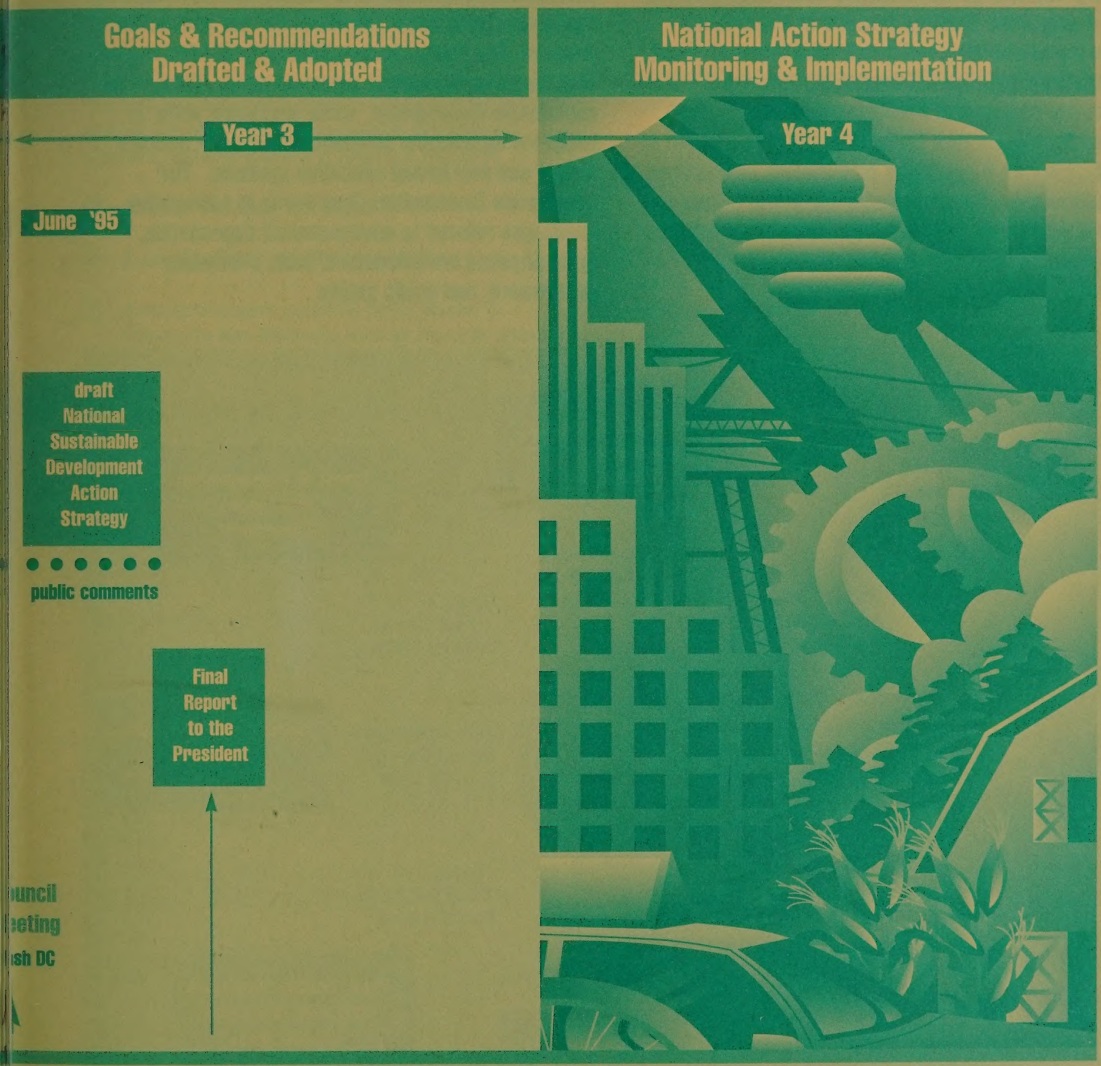
President's Council on Sustainable

The Council has charted an ambitious course that will culminate in the implementation of a National Sustainable Development Action Strategy to help sustain economic, environmental, and social development in the United States. During its first year the Executive Director of the Council established PCSD's operating procedures and assembled a Secretariat staff, and the Council began to develop the definitions, vision, and principles that are guiding their efforts.



Development Draft Strategic Plan

The PCSD is spending its second year conducting analyses, demonstration projects, surveys, case studies, workshops, and other research to develop recommendations that will form the basis of the National Sustainable Development Action Strategy. A draft strategy will be released to the public for comment in July 1995, and then presented to President Clinton in October 1995.


Goals & Recommendations Drafted & Adopted
National Action Strategy Monitoring & Implementation
Year 3
Year 4
June '95
draft National Sustainable Development Action Strategy
public comments
Final Report to the President
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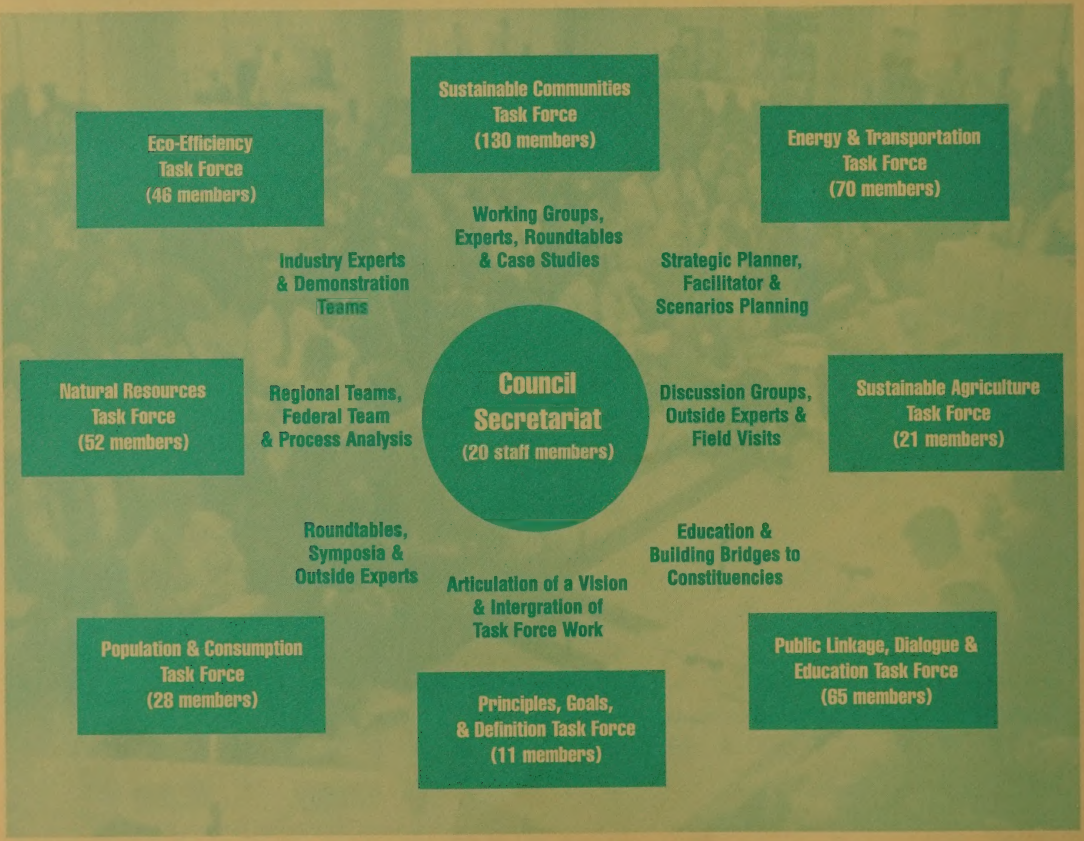
J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J
'96
'97

The Council created eight task forces to address major sustainable development issues. The Eco-Efficiency Task Force is developing and recommending a strategy to make eco-efficiency and sustainable development standard business practice in U.S. industry. The Energy and Transportation Task Force is using a scenarios planning process to understand where we are heading today and what types of short and long-term policies will contribute to a more sustainable energy and transportation future. The Natural Resources Task Force is developing a vision of sustainability as it relates to biodiversity, ecosystems, and watersheds. The Sustainable Agriculture Task Force is developing an integrated vision of sustainable agriculture, focusing on sustainable production practices and systems.

The Population and Consumption Task Force is focusing on issues of U.S. population growth and consumption. The Principles, Goals, and Definition Task Force drafted a vision statement and a series of defining principles that integrate the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, and it developed basic guidelines for the goal-setting process. The Public Linkage, Dialogue, and Education Task Force is working to generate public dialogue on sustainable development, while examining ways to integrate sustainable development into our nation's formal and non-formal education systems. The Sustainable Communities Task Force is addressing challenges related to environmental degradation, aging physical infrastructure, jobs, community governance, and public safety.


Sustainable Communities Task Force (130 members)
Eco-Efficiency Task Force (46 members)
Energy & Transportation Task Force (70 members)
Working Groups, Experts, Roundtables & Case Studies
Industry Experts & Demonstration Teams
Strategic Planner, Facilitator & Scenarios Planning
Natural Resources Task Force (52 members)
Regional Teams, Federal Team & Process Analysis
Council Secretariat (20 staff members)
Discussion Groups, Outside Experts & Field Visits
Sustainable Agriculture Task Force (21 members)
Roundtables, Symposia & Outside Experts
Education & Building Bridges to Constituencies
Articulation of a Vision & Intergration of Task Force Work
Population & Consumption Task Force (28 members)
Public Linkage, Dialogue & Education Task Force (65 members)
Principles, Goals, & Definition Task Force (11 members)

Purpose

The purpose of the Eco-Efficiency Task Force is to identify policies and programs that can help the U.S. economy produce and use globally competitve goods and services while achieving environmental and social goals.

Method and Organization

The final task force work product will be a strategy for making eco-efficiency and sustainable development standard business practice in American industry.

The strategy will have four parts:

1) A set of national eco-efficiency goals.

2) A series of papers exploring policy issues relevant to eco-efficiency, such as life-cycle analysis, product stewardship, and national accounting.

3) Several policy recommendations.

4) Examples of successful applications of eco-efficiency principles and methods and a description of barriers to eco-efficiency learned through demonstration projects in four industrial sectors.

The methods used to develop the strategy will include:

A) Identifying and involving a broad range of stakeholders and experts;

B) Conducting demonstration projects and case studies to identify incentives and barriers to improved economic and environmental performance within industrial systems;

C) Developing policy options and tools that could promote solutions for U.S. businesses; and

D) Integrating empirical lessons learned from demonstrations with the analytical work of policy clusters to develop a broad range of policy recommendations covering statutory, regulatory, administrative, cultural, financial, informational, and technical issues.

Update

The Eco-Efficiency Task Force established eight teams to carry out its work: four demonstration project teams and four policy cluster teams. Each team has added members based on their subject matter expertise and sectoral representation.

The four demonstration teams focus on chemicals, automobiles, printers/small business, and eco-industrial parks.

Through research, interviews, site visits, and surveys, demonstration teams gather information for analysis and discussion. Teams use a focus group approach and other participatory processes to extract lessons from the data. Each demonstration team works closely with the policy cluster teams to incorporate its findings into the task force's policy recommendations.

The task force established four cluster teams to further explore policy issues and tools associated with regulatory, economic, and information options, as well as the changing roles and responsibilities of the public and private sectors and individual citizens.

The policy cluster teams focus on economic, regulatory, management, and information policy options—all of which are reviewed for their feasibility and effectiveness in making eco-efficiency standard business practice in the United States.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs
Carol Browner, Administrator, U.S. EPA
A.D. "Pete" Correll, Chairman and CEO, Georgia-Pacific Corp.
Fred Krupp, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund

Members
James Baker, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA
Richard Barth, Chairman, President and CEO, Ciba-Geigy Corp.
Ronald Brown, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
David Buzzelli, Vice President and Corporate Director, The Dow Chemical Co.
Kenneth Derr, Chairman and CEO, Chevron Corp.
William Hoglund, Former Executive Vice President, General Motors Corp.
Samuel Johnson, Chairman, S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.
Hazel O'Leary, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

Purpose

The Energy and Transportation Task Force is developing both short and long-term policy recommendations to help guide the nation towards a more sustainable energy and transportation future.

Method and Organization

To accomplish its objectives, the task force is conducting the Sustainable Energy and Transportation Scenarios Project. This project uses the scenarios planning process to gain a clearer picture of where the energy and transportation sectors are heading today and what policies would contribute to a more sustainable energy and transportation future. This project relies heavily on a collaborative approach involving representatives from the environmental community, the private sector, labor organizations, government, and other important stakeholders.

The project is managed by the Council members on the Energy and Transportation Task Force and other representatives of key stakeholder groups, which have been identified as vital to the success of this effort. The expanded task force also is augmented by experts or other stakeholders as appropriate. Global Business Network, a consultant with considerable experience in the scenarios development process, has been retained to facilitate the process and help provide overall project management and logistics support.

Update

Last spring, the Sustainable Energy and Transportation Scenarios Project began to bring together the wealth of existing research to understand the dynamics shaping the energy and transportation sectors. The task force members have defined four plausible paths (scenarios) these sectors could take by the year 2025. The participants were encouraged by the notable consensus achieved on the broad visionary elements at this preliminary stage. As part of the Council's meetings in Chicago and Chattanooga, the task force had an opportunity to observe and consider successful examples of urban land use planning incorporating transit systems reinvented in a sustainable way.

Phase II of the project, which began in September, focuses on developing viable policy options by identifying the key environmental, economic, social, and political implications of each scenario, using the Council's vision and principles of sustainability.

The results of the Scenarios Project will become an essential component of the Council's national action strategy for sustainable development. In addition, short-term recommendations may be integrated into the federal budgeting process for fiscal year 1997. Other activities within federal agencies may be considered. Specifically, the Secretary of Energy intends to consider the task force's recommendations as the next National Energy Policy Plan is developed in 1995.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs
John Adams, Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council
Kenneth Derr, Chairman and CEO, Chevron Corp.
Hazel O'Leary, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

Members
Richard Clarke, Chairman and CEO, Pacific Gas & Electric Co.
Thomas Donahue, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO
Judith Espinosa, Former Secretary of the Environment, State of New Mexico
William Hoglund, Former Executive Vice President, General Motors Corp.
Fred Krupp, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund
Jonathan Lash, President, World Resources Institute

Purpose

The United States enjoys a bountiful diversity of natural resources. Our nation's natural resources are the well-spring from which our economic and social vitality flows. Expanding human demands and national and international economic activities place ever-increasing pressures on our nation's natural resources. The Natural Resources Task Force is developing an integrated vision of what constitutes sustainability for domestic natural resources, considering biodiversity, ecosystems, and watersheds with a focus on issues in the areas of wetlands, fisheries, agriculture, coastal resources, and forestry. The task force will recommend goals and actions that corporations, communities, individuals, and government at the federal, tribal, state, and local levels can take to move our nation toward protection, conservation, and sustainable management of our natural resources.

Method and Organization

Watersheds are the primary organizing principle in the task force's investigations. They provide a natural integration in assessing and analyzing the social, environmental, and economic sustainability of people's activities. The Natural Resources Task Force findings and vision will be based on a process of discovery using regional teams (Western, Midwestern, and Eastern) as vehicles for collecting information to find out what works and what does not through a series of watershed workshops held across the country. A federal team was created to assist in analysis and synthesis of the watershed workshops and current federal initiatives.

The regional teams invited 27 additional members to participate in the planning, synthesis, and formulation of recommendations from the workshops. These additional members were selected from industry, conservation organizations, and government based on their diversity of regional experience and expertise in sustainable development.

Update

The Western Team is conducting a series of workshops throughout the region, including at Seattle, Lake Tahoe, Santa Fe, Las Vegas, and Yakima and Bellevue, Washington. The Midwestern Team is focusing its attention on the Mississippi River watershed, conducting workshops in LaCrosse, Des Moines, Chicago, and Baton Rouge. The Eastern Team selected three watersheds to use as case studies: the Chesapeake Bay, Hudson River in New York, and St. John's River in Florida.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs

Richard Barth, Chairman, President and CEO, Ciba-Geigy Corp.
James Lyons, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Theodore Strong, Executive Director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Members

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
James Baker, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA
Carol Browner, Administrator, U.S. EPA
A.D. Correll, Chairman and CEO, Georgia-Pacific Corp.
Fred Krupp, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund
Michele Perrault, International Vice President, Sierra Club
John Sawhill, President and CEO, The Nature Conservancy

Purpose

The Population and Consumption Task Force seeks to identify the factors influencing U.S. demographic, consumption, and waste generation trends.

Method and Organization

A preliminary report comprised of information on U.S. demographic, consumption, and waste generation trends was presented to the Council at the April 1994 meeting. Following this report, the Council decided to formally establish the task force at the July Council meeting.

Roundtables focusing on the issues of population and consumption enable the task force to help identify priority issues and assist with the development of policy recommendations. Two of three roundtables have been convened. The first roundtable focused on fertility and immigration in the United States. The goal of the second roundtable was to inform the task force about the consumption of materials and energy in the United States. The third roundtable will explore policy options for addressing population and consumption.

In addition to establishing the roundtables, the task force invited additional force members to lend their expertise and insight for the development of policy recommendations. The task force also co-sponsored a symposium with the U.S. State Department aimed at gathering public input on population and consumption trends in the United States.

Update

Since its establishment in July 1994, the task force has achieved its objectives thus far by convening its first and second roundtables. The task force is developing goals and policy recommedations based on the findings of the public roundtables. Task force achievements to date are:

1) Development of goals and initial policy options;
2) Completion of roundtables focusing on:
   a) fertility and immigration,
   b) consumption and energy, and
   c) policy recommendations;
3) Follow-up symposium on the Cairo Population & Development Conference; and
4) Selection of additional task force members.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs

Dianne Dillon-Ridgley, Co-Chair, Citizens Network for Sustainable Development
Timothy Wirth, Under Secretary for Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Members

John Adams, Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council
James Baker, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA
Richard Barth, Chairman, President and CEO, Ciba-Geigy Corp.
Ronald Brown, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
Fred Krupp, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund
Michele Perrault, International Vice President, Sierra Club
Theodore Strong, Executive Director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Purpose

The Principles, Goals, and Definition Task Force plays an advisory role to the Council. The task force also will assist in integrating the Council's initiatives into a single National Sustainable Development Action Strategy.

Method and Organization

The task force articulated a vision statement and a set of draft principles to integrate the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The task force assists the policy-oriented task forces as they each formulate sector-specific goals, and it consults with other government and non-governmental organizations also striving to establish sustainable development goals and principles.

Public feedback on the vision statement, defining principles, problem statement, and draft goals and recommendations will be reviewed and synthesized by the task force and discussed by the full Council. The task force was pleased by the level of enthusiasm and interest in the Council's work to date, as reflected in the more than 600 comments received in response to its draft vision statement and 15 principles.

Update

The task force is working to integrate the goals of the individual task forces, and it will assist with integrating the task force recommendations for review in April and May.

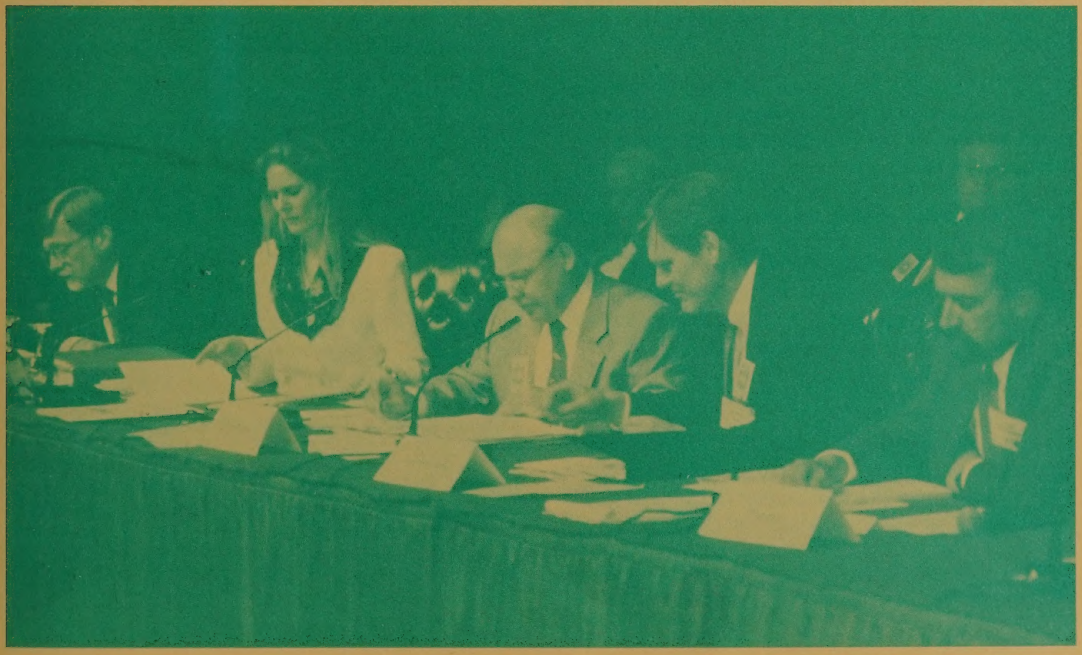
Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs

Jay Hair, President and CEO, National Wildlife Federation
William Ruckelshaus, Chairman and CEO, Browning-Ferris Industries

Members

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
James Baker, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA
Ronald Brown, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
Carol Browner, Administrator, U.S. EPA
Benjamin Chavis, Environmental Justice Advocate
Thomas Donahue, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO
Michele Perrault, International Vice President, Sierra Club
Timothy Wirth, Under Secretary for Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State



Purpose

An educated public is our most powerful resource to meet the challenges created by increasing environmental, economic, and social demands. Recognizing the importance of education, the Council created the Public Linkage, Dialogue, and Education Task Force to serve as the vehicle through which information on sustainable development, the PCSD, and its activities is accessible to the public. The task force promotes dialogue and outreach between the PCSD and community networks, and it is examining ways to integrate sustainable development into our nation's formal and non-formal education systems. Through its efforts, the task force hopes to foster a national understanding of sustainable development and commitment to action that will last beyond this century into the future.

Method and Organization

The Public Linkage, Dialogue, and Education Task Force is organized into six working groups:

1) Steering;
2) International;
3) Scientific, engineering, and academic;
4) Education;
5) State and local government; and
6) Jobs and labor.

To date, the task force has engaged more than 60 members in dicussions of how the PCSD can reach out to various sectors of the public now, and how to maintain that dialogue in the future.

To meet its mandate, the task force is working to engage the business, environmental, labor, civil rights, educational, and religious communities in the PCSD process. Through community roundtables, forums, and the use of print and electronic media, the task force is working to communicate with these networks about the environmental, economic, and social implications of the Council's recommendations for sustainable development in the United States.

The task force also has cooperated with organizations and conferences to promote sustainability to a wider audience. It has partnered with Global Action Plan for the Earth (GAP) in launching a national community-based campaign empowering Americans to live more sustainable lifestyles. Together, the task force and GAP hope to initiate10 grass-roots programs across the nation beginning with Chattanooga, TN and ending with San Jose and San Francisco, CA. The task force also forged a partnership with the National Forum on Education About The Environment, held at the Presidio in San Francisco in October 1994. The National Forum will assist the task force in developing policy recommendations on educating for sustainability and the recommended partnerships needed to implement such policies. These policy recommendations are intended to create a meaningful blueprint for a national sustainable development strategy on education and public participation.

The Education Working Group of the task force is leading the formulation of policy options for formal and non-formal education and outreach in a four-step process:

1) **A visioning forum** to break ground and draft policy ideas on formal and non-formal education for sustainability;

2) **A university level symposium** to formulate a model curriculum and bibliography for use in universities and colleges;

3) **A policy summit with major decisionmakers** to finalize draft policies; and

4) **Final review and consensus** by task force members and the PCSD.

The other working groups will focus policy formulation efforts on public participation in the development of sustainable practices and processes.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs

Judith Espinosa, Former Secretary of the Environment, State of New Mexico
Michele Perrault, International Vice President, Sierra Club

Members

Dianne Dillon-Ridgley, Co-Chair, Citizens Network for Sustainable Development
Samuel Johnson, Chairman, S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.
Madeleine Kunin, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
Tim Wirth, Under Secretary for Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Purpose

Agriculture is an integral part of American life; America's farms and ranches provide food, feed, and fiber to people worldwide. Culturally, agriculture plays a key role in our national identity and character. Agriculture continues to define and sustain a thriving and distinctive rural culture in America. For these reasons, agriculture is critically important to sustainable development in local, regional, national, and international contexts.

The Sustainable Agriculture Task Force is developing an integrated vision of sustainable agriculture, focusing on sustainable production practices and systems. The task force will recommend goals and actions in the areas of agriculture-related research and education, technology, and farming practices and systems.

Method and Organization

The Sustainable Agriculture Task Force is using an approach that synthesizes public roundtable discussions, field visits, and a review and analysis of the literature into a draft report for public review and subsequent final report. As the task force addresses issues surrounding agriculture and sustainable development, the public is involved throughout the process.

Update

Roundtable Discussions
The Sustainable Agriculture Task Force is holding a series of roundtable discussions with invited experts from diverse disciplines and experiences in the area of agriculture. These roundtable discussions are held in conjunction with the quarterly Council meetings.

Site Visits
The task force is visiting selected farming operations, research facilities, and demonstration sites illustrating sustainable agricultural practices and systems. For its first site visit, the task force toured corn, soybean, and hog farms and Purdue University's agricultural research facilities in western Indiana on July 23, 1994.

Literature Review
The task force is conducting a survey of the available literature and policy scenarios to assess the interaction between different agricultural practices, government programs, and market mechanisms on the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of the American farming system.

The Sustainable Agriculture Task Force is composed of nine Council members and 12 additional members from disciplines and backgrounds reflecting the diversity and balance of the Council.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs
John Adams, Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council
Richard Barth, Chairman, President and CEO, Ciba-Geigy Corp.
Richard Rominger, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Members
David Buzzelli, Vice President and Corporate Director, The Dow Chemical Co.
Carol Browner, Administrator, U.S. EPA
A.D."Pete" Correll, Chairman and CEO, Georgia-Pacific Corp.
Samuel Johnson, Chairman, S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.
Jonathan Lash, President, World Resources Institute
John Sawhill, President, The Nature Conservancy

Purpose

Flourishing communities are the foundation of a healthy society. The Sustainable Communities Task Force was established to articulate and emphasize the leadership role of communities in developing integrated approaches to critical social, economic, and environmental issues, while creating opportunities for active public participation. The task force is drawing constructive guidance from actual community experience to develop policy recommendations that, when implemented, will invigorate our communities to be more livable in the broadest sense—environmentally, economically, and socially.

Method and Organization

The broad range of sustainability issues, which serve as basic building blocks for communities, are reflected in the six working groups of the task force: Economic Development and Jobs, Environmental Justice, Housing and Land Use, Making It Happen (financing, planning, and participation), Social Infrastructure, and Transportation and Infrastructure. The working groups are considering issues of economic development, social and physical infrastructure, financing, and public participation in order to identify obstacles and opportunities for communities in their efforts to become more sustainable. More than 130 people representing diverse sectors of society and areas of expertise are participating on these working groups.

Update

The Sustainable Communities Task Force has compiled approximately a dozen draft goals supporting its vision of communities that are creating vibrant local economies and promoting environmentally and socially healthy environments with the meaningful participation of their residents.

Case Histories

The task force is conducting several studies of diverse communities throughout the country. A broad set of community leaders representing the corporate, government, non-profit, labor, community development, and environmental sectors are helping compile the lessons learned from each community's work on economic, social, and environmental issues and fostering substantive public participation. In addition to contributing to the task force's policy development, the case studies will be included in the task force report.

Task Force Council Membership

Co-Chairs

Ronald Brown, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
Thomas Donahue, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO

Members

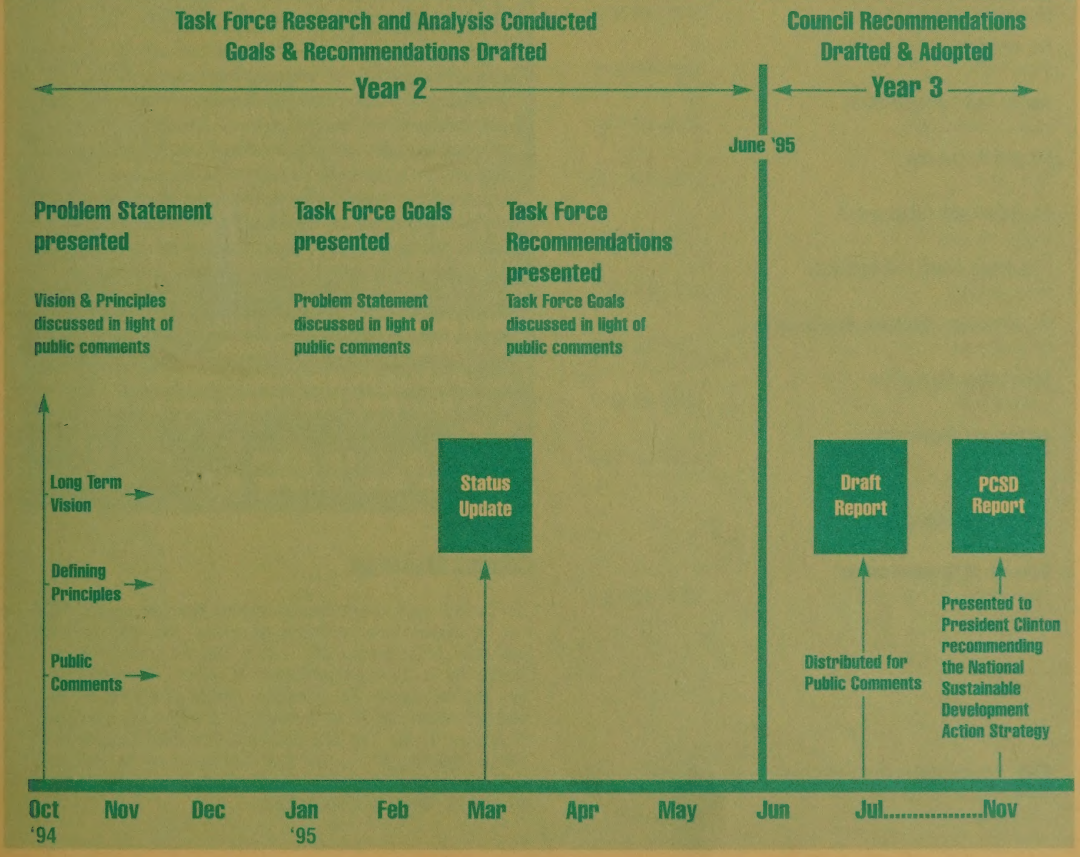
John Adams, Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council
Richard Barth, Chairman, President & CEO, Ciba-Geigy Corp.
Carol Browner, Administrator, U.S. EPA
Benjamin Chavis, Environmental Justice Advocate
Judith Espinosa, Former Secretary of the Environment, State of New Mexico
Madeleine Kunin, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
Michele Perrault, International Vice President, Sierra Club
Dianne Dillon-Ridgley, Co-Chair, Citizens Network for Sustainable Development

For the next several months the task forces will be developing long–term sustainability goals for the nation. Then, based on the findings of their various work efforts, the task forces will develop recommendations for changes in local and national policies and practices that, if implemented, would help sustain economic, environmental, and social development in the United States.

The proposed task force goals and recommendations will be presented to the Council and the public at the April and June 1995 Council meetings. After public discussions at both meetings, the Council will determine the set of goals and recommendations to be included in a draft National Sustainable Development Action Strategy that will be submitted to President Clinton and distributed nationwide in the third quarter of 1995.

In completing an aggressive workplan within a tight timetable, we will continue to engage in a participatory process. Through our efforts, we hope to foster a national understanding of sustainable development, and recommend specific, practical actions to help guide our nation to a more sustainable future.

Key Steps to the Submission of the National Sustainable Development Action Strategy



Call for information about the PCSD and to place your name and address on our mailing list: (202) 408-5296

Send your ideas and comments to the PCSD!

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Presidential Honors Program

President Clinton's Sustainable Development Honors Program was launched in late October 1994. The President will give awards for outstanding contributions to sustainable development, showing long-term, breakthrough thinking about development as it affects the future of our nation. These examples will show real, working, illustrative examples of sustainable development in action.

Each award will reflect the principles of sustainable development: enhanced economic development, a cleaner environment, and improved social equity. While the President's Council subdivided sustainable development into task forces for the sake of study and observation, the recommendations of each task force are part of a larger strategy. The awards will help the public better understand that this complex set of issues we call sustainable development is a necessary and practical goal if our nation is to maintain a meaningful quality of life.

The awards program is being implemented by the National Wildlife Federation with foundation and corporate underwriting. White & White, Inc. has been retained to direct and staff the program. In keeping with the spirit of sustainable development, the administration of the awards program is as paperless as possible. Applicants are encouraged to obtain information and submit entries via the Internet. In addition, the PCSD staff will relay applications via E-mail to evaluators for review. Audio-text and fax-on-demand systems also will be available to handle inquiries.

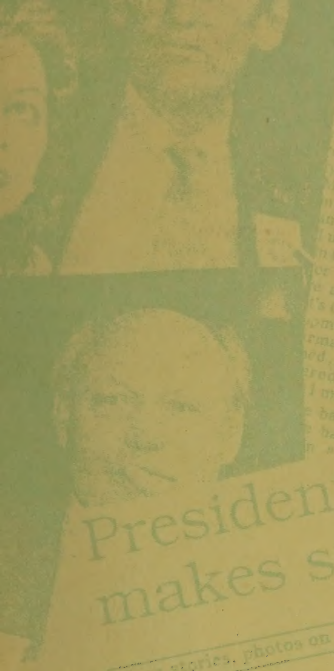
Internet address: bw0001@epfl2.epflbalto.org
Fax: 410-225-3424 Staff office: 410-225-3212

Audio-text and fax-on-demand are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To activate fax-on-demand, you must call from a phone connected to a fax machine.

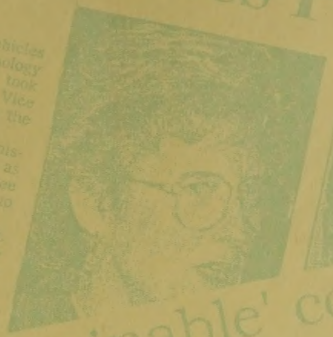
Office hours: Mon. - Fri., 9 AM - 6 PM EST
Mailing address: 1500 Park Ave., Baltimore, MD 21217

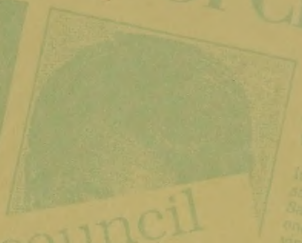
Council Meetings

The Council meets quarterly over an initial two-year period, and it may be renewed for an additional two years. The 1993 meetings were held in Washington, DC. During 1994 the Council met in Seattle, WA in January, Washington, DC in April, Chicago, IL in July, and Washington, DC in October. Meetings in 1995 will be held in Chattanooga, TN on January 12-13 and in San Francisco, CA on April 27-28. The final meeting is scheduled for June 27-28, 1995, in Washington, DC. The draft final report will be released for public comment in July 1995, and the final report of the Council is planned for release in October 1995.



Electric Buses Part Of City





President's 'Sustainable' council makes stops in Ilwaco, Raymond

More stories, photos on page 8.

Sustainable Development Council seeks happy medium between nature and human

BY CLAUDINE CHAMBERLAIN
Times Staff Writer

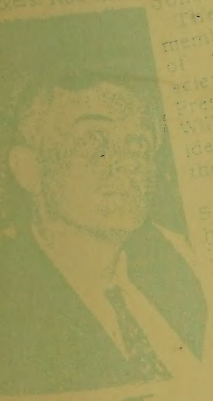
GARY – The key to building a healthy economy that doesn't sacrifice the environment is a move away from the mind-set that built Northwest Indiana, local residents told a group of advisers to President Clinton on Thursday.

"The pollution of the Grand Calumet River is the result of a mentality that values short-term gains over sustainability," environmental activist Dorreen

The 25-member council was commissioned by President Clinton in June last year to study ways the federal government can encourage economic growth and job creation while preserving natural resources.

The council's findings are expected to have a direct impact on the president's economic and environmental policies.

Scott Bernstein, director of the Center for Neighborhood Technology in Chicago, agreed



Making recycling pay

Incentives urged in control of waste, emissi

erning emissions and waste. Task force members say they about the ambi-

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